

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION AND ABSTRACT

Please delete the sub-heading on page 3, lines 8-9 as follows:

~~Disclosure of the Invention~~

~~Problems to be solved by the Invention~~

Please amend the sub-heading on page 4, line 12 as follows:

~~Means for Solving the Problems~~Brief Description of the Invention

Please delete the sub-heading on page 6, line 17 as follows:

~~Effect of the Invention~~

Please amend the sub-heading on page 11, line 20 as follows:

~~Best Mode for Carrying Out~~Detailed Description of the Invention

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 13, line 14 as follows:

Since the glass substrates 4 and 5, which are thicker than the crystal plates, are stuck to the principal faces 21 and ~~31~~32 at both ends of these crystal plates, no distortion occurs in the optical filter 1, and there is no change in the incidence angle, so the desired phase characteristics are obtained. Furthermore, these substrates not only increase the strength and rigidity of the optical filter 1, but also prevent the principal faces of the crystal plates from being scratched or chipped by external factors.

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

~~This~~ An optical filter is ~~constituted~~ such that at least one optically anisotropic crystal plate and at least one substrate are stuck together in a state in which a principal face of the optically anisotropic crystal plate and a principal face of the substrate are perpendicular to ~~the~~ a direction of transmission of ~~the~~ a ray. Also, a substrate is used as ~~the~~ an end face on ~~the~~ a ray incident side, and another optically anisotropic crystal plate or another substrate that is thinner than the substrate that is the end face on the ray incident side is stuck onto the substrate.